

**GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY TASK FORCE**  
**Monday, October 22, 2001**  
**Meeting Summary**

The second meeting of the Ground Water Management Advisory Task Force was held on Monday, October 22, 2001 in the Louisiana Room of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries Building. Commissioner Gautreaux opened the meeting by asking those in attendance to introduce themselves.

Anthony Duplechin, Jr., Chief of Staff, gave an update on Ground Water activities. Mr. Duplechin reported that the Department of Natural Resources web page now included the Memo to Water Well Drillers and Owners and the Well Information Sheet detailing the latest Commission rulings and revising the required information that the Staff needs to track water wells. All Commission meeting transcripts and transcript summaries were posted on the web page. The Staff intends on doing the same with the Task Force meetings as soon as they are recorded. Announcements and agendas for Commission and Task Force Meetings are also being posted on the web site. In general the web site is being updated to provide the information generated by the Commission to the public. In addition, links to related sites (i.e. LSU Agriculture Center) are provided for the public's convenience.

Mr. Duplechin reported that revisions to the Emergency Rules will be proposed to provide:

1. requirements for the applicant to recommend management procedures for the critical ground water area and
2. state the Commission's authority to take appropriate action to manage the critical ground water area.

Mr. Duplechin also noted that according to the Louisiana State Register, the rules will be moved from Title 70 (Transportation) to Title 33 (Environmental Quality) in March 2002.

Mr. Duplechin also reported that the staff issued five just cause decisions:

1. two for test holes for an aquifer test and
2. three for drillers who had short notice from their client
  - one non-community public supply,
  - one irrigation, and
  - one crawfish pond.

Senator Fred Hoyt asked Mr. Duplechin how many proposals had been submitted by consultants for review by the selection committee. Mr. Duplechin answered that six (6) proposals were reviewed. Commissioner Gautreaux asked the Task Force to review the Scope of Services, Emergency Rule, and the Response to the Executive Order MJF 2000-44.

After the Task Force Committee members met for discussion, Commissioner Gautreaux asked if any had oral reports for the Advisory Task Force. The following committees reported:

- Agriculture Committee: Recommended the 60 day Waiver to include Drought Condition Wells.

- Economic Committee: No report.
- Industrial Committee: Will meet before the next Task Force meeting to prepare a survey and design a questionnaire.
- Outreach Committee: Plan to meet on November 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> in order to firm plans for educating the public. Linda Walker, Chairman, requested the Ground Water Staff to draft an article for organizations such as LABI, etc. to be published in various publications throughout the state. Commissioner Gautreaux assured Mrs. Walker the staff would prepare an article for that purpose. Mr. Duplechin requested that this type of information come from the committee.
- Public Supply Committee: No Report
- Surface & Ground Water combined with the Technical Committee: Will schedule a meeting after the Consultant is chosen. Commissioner Gautreaux asked Mr. Duplechin to inform these committees when they can legally meet with the Consultant. Part I will identify Water Resources. Part 2 of the contract will formulate a plan of action.
- Ecology Committee: will develop a list of examples of how depletion impacts recreation such as fishing, etc.
- Policy Committee: Eugene Owen reported that there was no quorum. As a committee of one (1) he questioned the Emergency Rule Section 3505 A2a. His concern was that nothing requires a pro rata allocation in an emergency. Commissioner Gautreaux reminded him that the handouts on the Emergency Rule are the proposed revisions.

There were no general discussions or comments from the Task Force.

Mike Goree announced that there is an Irrigation Conference in San Antonio later this fall and invited those interested to attend.

Commissioner Gautreaux suggested that the Advisory Task Force meetings be held in the morning before the Ground Water Commission Meetings.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.